



WASHINGTON DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

This report reflects significant trends, data, and major issues relating to drugs in the State of Washington.

Washington At-a-Glance:

- In 2007-2008, Washington was one of the top ten states for rates in several drug-use categories among persons age 12 and older: past-month illicit drug use; past-month marijuana use; and past-year non-medical use of pain relievers.
Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2007-2008.
- Approximately 10 percent of Washington residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8 percent.
- The rate of drug-induced deaths in Washington is higher than the national average.
- Marijuana is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in Washington.

Drug Use Trends in Washington

Drug Use in Washington: The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs), and mental health in the United States. In the most recent Survey, 9.59 percent of Washington residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.02 percent. Washington's rate was one of the 10 highest among the states. Additionally, 3.74 percent of Washington residents reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana in the past month (the national average was 3.58 percent).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2007-2008 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k8state/Cover.pdf>

Drug-Induced Deaths: As a direct consequence of drug use, 1,003 persons died in Washington in 2007. This is greater than the number of persons in Washington who died from motor vehicle accidents (649) and firearms (548) in the same year. Washington drug-induced deaths (15.5 per 100,000 population) exceeded the national rate (12.7 per 100,000).

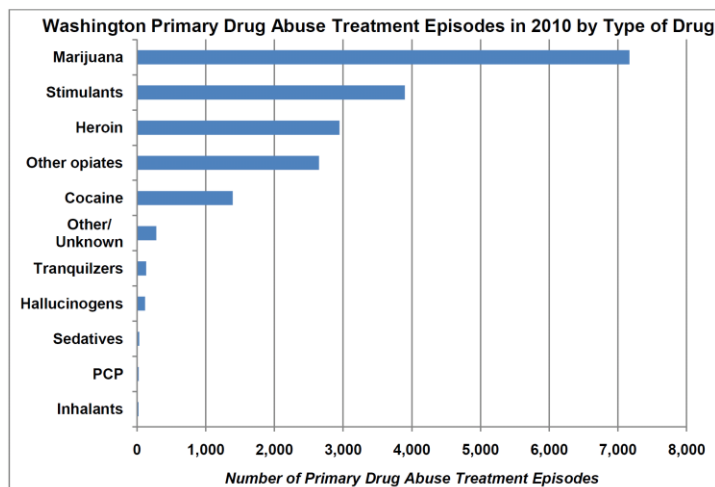
Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - National Vital Statistics Reports Volume 58, Number 19 for 2007: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr58/nvsr58_19.pdf

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

Washington Primary Treatment Admissions:

The graph at right depicts substance abuse primary treatment admissions in Washington in 2010. The data show that marijuana, followed by stimulants (including methamphetamine), is the most commonly cited drug among primary drug treatment admissions in the state.

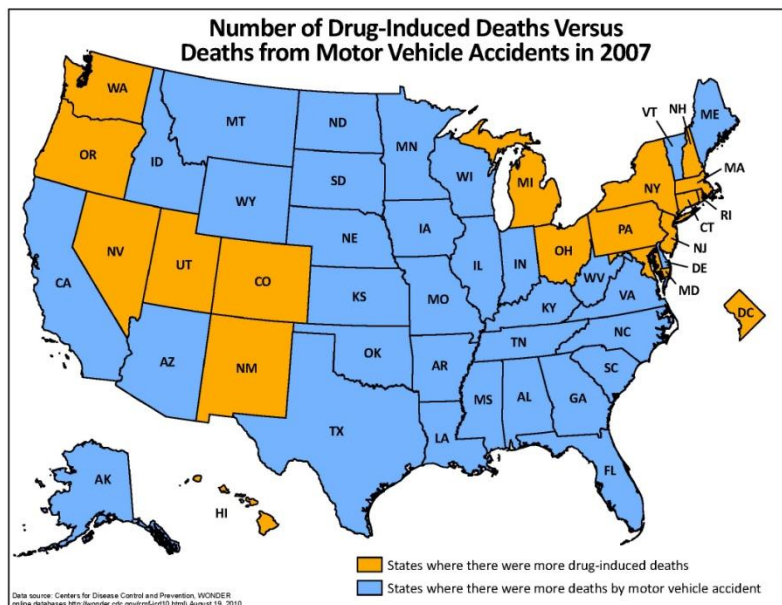
Source: Treatment Episode Data Set, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/dasis.htm>



Prescription Drug Abuse

ONDCP's Efforts to Combat Prescription Drug Abuse

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest-growing drug problem in the Nation. The Administration's Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Plan, entitled, "**Epidemic: Responding to America's Prescription Drug Abuse Crisis,**" provides a national framework for reducing prescription drug diversion and abuse by supporting the expansion of state-based prescription drug monitoring programs; recommending secure, more convenient, and environmentally responsible disposal methods to remove expired, unused, or unneeded medications from the home; supporting education for patients and healthcare providers; and reducing the prevalence of pill mills and doctor shopping through enforcement efforts.



State-Level Action: Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)

PDMPs track controlled substances prescribed by authorized practitioners and dispensed by pharmacies. PDMPs serve a number of functions, including assisting in patient care, providing early warning signs of drug epidemics, and detecting drug diversion and insurance fraud. Thirty-five states have operational PDMP programs established by state legislation and funded by a combination of state and Federal funds. An additional 13 states have a prescription drug monitoring program authorized, but not yet operational. Adequate resourcing, increasing the number of states with operational PDMPs, and development of state-to-state information-sharing systems would significantly help reduce prescription drug diversion and abuse.

Washington's Prescription Monitoring Program was enacted under State Law Chapter 70.225 RCW. The program, which falls under the Washington State Department of Health, monitors controlled substances in Schedules II, III, IV, and V. In 2008, the department suspended the program due to financial difficulties. The department secured new funding in the fall of 2010 to restart the effort to implement the program.

Source: Alliance of States with Prescription Monitoring Programs: <http://www.pmpalliance.org/content/washington-state-profile>; Washington State Department of Health: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/PMP/default.htm>

State-Level Action: Drug Take-Back Programs

A comprehensive plan to address prescription drug abuse must include proper disposal of unused, unneeded, or expired medications. Providing individuals with a secure and convenient way to dispose of controlled substances will help prevent diversion and abuse of these substances and demonstrate sound environmental stewardship. Federal rulemaking is underway and will further enhance the viability and scope of state and community take-back programs. In the meantime, states are encouraged to work with the DEA to conduct additional take-back events and educate the public about safe and effective drug return and disposal.

Drugged Driving

ONDCP Action on Drugged Driving

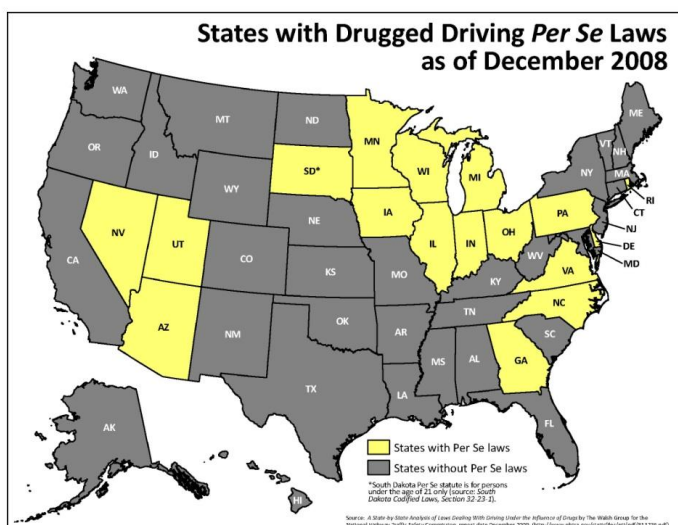
In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested positive for drugs in 2009. Recognizing this growing problem, ONDCP is working to raise awareness of the dangers of drugged driving, provide increased training to law enforcement in identifying drugged drivers, and encourage states to consider *Per Se* laws to facilitate effective enforcement and prosecution of those who drive with drugs in their systems.

State-Level Action: Enacting *Per Se* Standards for Impairment

Although all 50 states have laws against drugged driving, law enforcement often lacks adequate tools to enforce and prosecute drugged driving. ONDCP encourages states to develop and implement *Per Se* standards that make it illegal to drive a vehicle after taking illegal drugs. This is the same standard used successfully for 12 million commercial drivers in the United States over the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in 17 states.

Washington does not have a *Per Se* standard. Under Sections 46.61.502 and 46 of the Revised Code of Washington, a person is guilty of driving and being in actual physical control of a motor vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug if the person drives a vehicle within the state and is under the influence of or affected by intoxicating liquor or any drug, or a combined influence of an intoxicating liquor and any drug. Proof required: that the defendant was driving or was in actual physical control of a vehicle in Washington; the defendant was under the influence of or was affected by any drug; was operating a vehicle in a negligent manner likely to endanger persons or property; and while operating the vehicle, the defendant exhibited the effects of having consumed a controlled substance or a prescription drug.

Source: *A State-by-State Analysis of Laws Dealing With Driving Under the Influence of Drugs*, by the Walsh Group for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Program

Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, Drug Free Communities (DFC) organizations mobilize communities to prevent youth drug use by creating local data-driven strategies to reduce drug use in the community. ONDCP works to foster the growth of new coalitions and support existing coalitions through the DFC grants. In FY 2011, the following Washington coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Castle Rock CARE Coalition- Community for Action, Response and Empowerment Coalition
- Central Seattle Drug Free Communities Coalition (CSDFCC)
- Chi-e-chee Network Coalition
- Citizens for Safer Yakima Communities
- Coalition for a Drug and Alcohol Free Orting
- Community Advisory Coalition
- Franklin Pierce Youth First!
- Kelso STOP Coalition
- Kent Drug Free Coalition
- KITSAP Tobacco and Other Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (KTASC)
- Kittitas County Community Network
- Longview Anti-Drug Coalition
- Lopez Island Prevention Coalition
- Mercer Island Communities That Care
- Okanogan County Community Coalition
- Pend Oreille County Youth Task Force

- Pierce County Leadership for Alcohol and Drug-Free Youth
- Port Angeles Healthy Youth Coalition
- PREVENT! The Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Clark County
- Prevention Works in Seattle
- Quincy Communities That Care
- San Juan Island Prevention Coalition
- Snohomish County Federated Health and Safety Network
- Snoqualmie Valley Healthy Community Coalition

- Tacoma Drug-Free Coalition
- Vashon Healthy Community Network
- Wahkiakum Community Network
- Wellspring Community Network
- Whatcom County Prevention Coalition
- White Swan Arts & Recreation Community Coalition
- Yakama Reservation Community Coalition

Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy
http://www.ondcp.gov/dfc/grantee_map.html

National Anti-Drug Media Campaign

ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign provides consistent and credible messages (including those in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug abuse and its consequences. *Above the Influence*, a major component of the Campaign, informs and inspires youth to reject illicit drugs and drinking via a mix of national and local advertising vehicles. The Campaign, in close partnership with local community-based, youth-serving organizations, also conducts teen-targeted *Above the Influence* activities to assist local groups with youth drug prevention work in their respective communities.

ONDCP High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) County Info

The High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program enhances and coordinates drug control efforts among local, state, and Federal law enforcement agencies. In designated HIDTA counties, the program provides agencies with coordination, equipment, technology, and additional resources to combat drug trafficking and its harmful consequences in critical regions of the United States.

Northwest HIDTA

Washington Counties: Benton, Clark, Cowlitz, Franklin, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Pierce, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Whatcom, and Yakima.

- Northwest HIDTA law enforcement initiatives have established priorities that focus on immobilizing Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs), especially those involved with drug-related violent crime, and targeting those DTOs that have the greatest adverse impact on the quality of life in neighborhoods and communities.
- The Northwest HIDTA has implemented its second Native American Project in conjunction with the Snohomish Regional Drug Task Force and the following Tribes: Tulalip, Stillaquamish, Swinomish, and the Sauk Suiattle. The purpose of this project is to fund intelligence-driven operations to detect, deter, interdict, disrupt, and/or dismantle organizations involved in drug trafficking in general on tribal lands, specifically the Yakima Reservation.

Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Washington

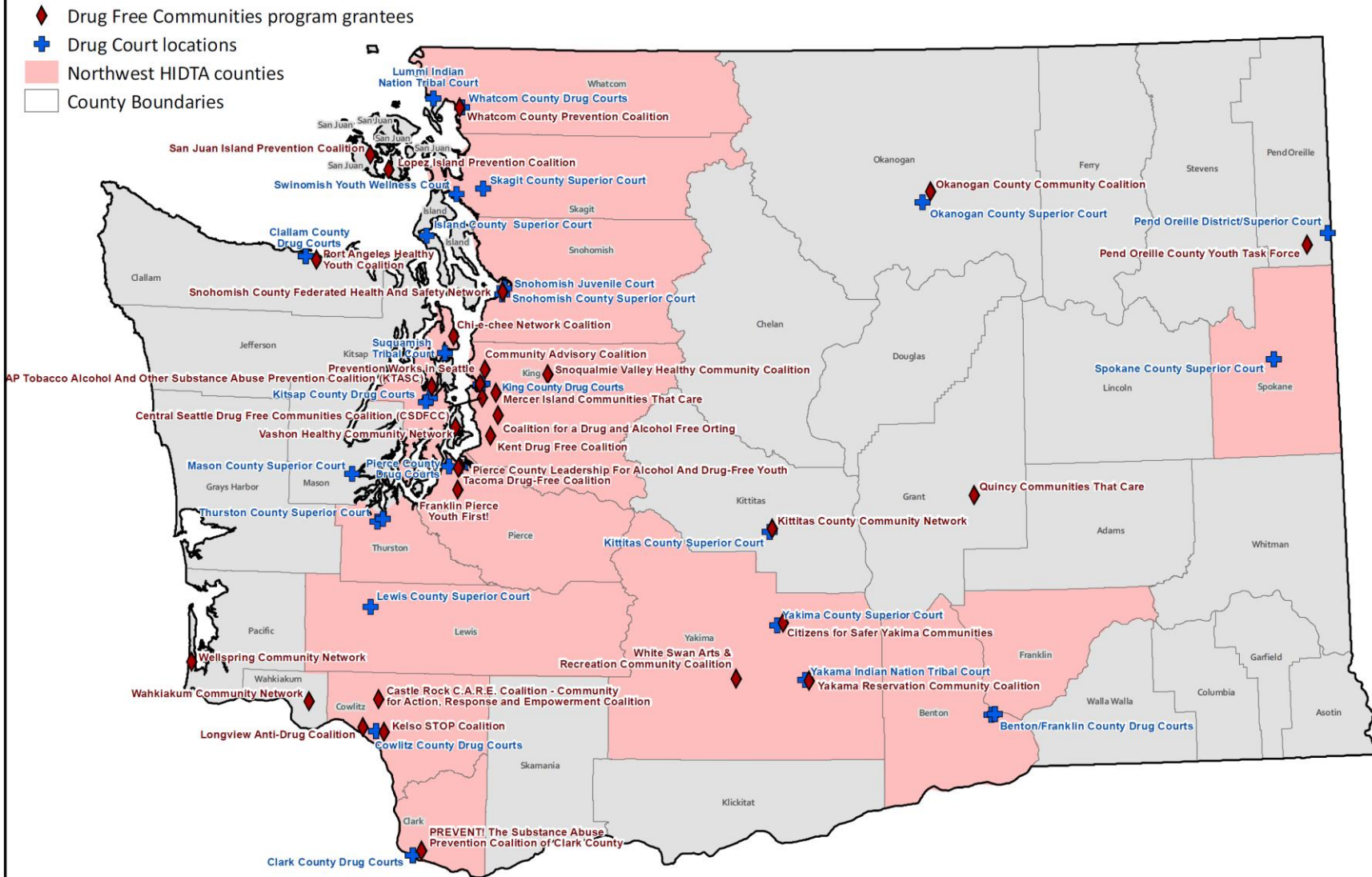
The Federal Government awards competitive grants to help states in their efforts to reduce drug use and its harmful consequences. In FY 2010, direct support was provided to state and local governments, schools, and law enforcement organizations in your state for this purpose. Some Federal grant programs are dedicated to reducing drug use and its harmful consequences while others can be used for reducing drug use or for other purposes. In FY 2010, your State received support under the grant programs shown below.

Federal Grant Awards		2010
Department of Education		
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities_National Programs		2,735,861
Alcohol Abuse Reduction Grants		923,890
Building State And Local Leadership Capacity for Preventing Youth Substance Use and Violence		123,376
Competition To Prevent High-Risk Drinking & Violent Behavior Among College Students		117,622
Grants For School-Based Student Drug-Testing Programs		79,766
Safe Schools/Healthy Students Grants		1,491,207
Department of Health and Human Services		
Administration for Children and Families		6,886,868
Mentoring Children of Prisoners		420,000
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		6,466,868
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention		555,886
HIV Prevention Activities_Non-Governmental Organization Based		555,886
Indian Health Service		926,314
Urban Indian Health Services		926,314
National Institutes of Health		31,124,824
Discovery and Applied Research for Technological Innovations to Improve Human Health		10,485,996
Drug Abuse and Addiction Research Programs		20,638,828
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		50,701,879
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse		35,098,858
National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Grant		105,828
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)		1,304,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services_Projects of Regional and National Significance		10,841,193
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services-Access to Recovery		3,352,000
Department of Housing and Urban Development		
Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development		7,097,957
Shelter Plus Care		7,097,957
Assistant Secretary for Housing--Federal Housing Commissioner		(216,086)
Shelter Plus Care		(216,086)
Department of Justice		
Office of Justice Programs		22,021,869
Congressionally Recommended Awards		3,135,465
Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program		250,000
Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program		1,945,709
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program		8,539,673
Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		1,156,400
Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program		389,738
Indian Country Alcohol and Drug Prevention		2,364,554
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants		924,200
National Institute of Justice Research Evaluation and Development Project Grants		1,388,444
Recovery Act - Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program		41,666
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners		394,987
Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative		750,000
Tribal Youth Program		741,033
Department of Labor		
Employment and Training Administration		500,000
Reintegration of Ex-Offenders		500,000
Executive Office of the President		
Office of National Drug Control Policy		4,274,191
High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program		4,274,191
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration		3,917,602
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants		3,917,602
Grand Total		130,527,165

Note: Report as of 11/30/2010. FY 2009 includes additional grant awards under the Recovery Act. The Federal, State and Local Shares of Medicaid and the Federal Medicare Programs are not included above. Updated 6/7/2011.



Office of National Drug Control Policy Programs in Washington with Drug Court Locations



Source: National Drug Court Institute and ONDCP, September 2011

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